

**OFFICE OF CONGRESSMAN EARL BLUMENAUER
APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST FORM
FISCAL YEAR 2011**

Instructions

1. Please complete the entire form. **All fields are required.**
2. Please do not **bold**, underline, or *italicize* responses.
3. Request forms must be submitted as a Word document.
4. All completed request forms and any supplemental materials must be submitted via email to:
Appropriations.Blumenauer@mail.house.gov
5. Please do not send more than one request per email.
6. All completed request forms must be submitted no later than **Friday, February 26, 2010.**
7. If you do not receive an email confirming receipt of your request within 48 hours of submission, please contact Stephanie Cappa in Congressman Blumenauer's Washington, D.C. office at 202-225-4811.

PLEASE NOTE: All appropriations requests submitted to Congressman Blumenauer's office will be made public on his website, as required by the House Committee on Appropriations.

Project Details

1. Project title:

90-Day Soft Landing

2. Organization name and address (the recipient of the funds):

Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs

3. Contact information

a. **Project's primary contact:** Tom Mann

b. **Daytime telephone number/ mobile phone number:** 503-373-2386

c. **Email Address:** tom.mann@state.or.us

d. **Project location** (if different than organization's address):

700 Summer Street NE Salem, OR 97301

4. Please describe the requesting organization's main activities.

The Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs advocates on behalf of veterans, their dependents and survivors.

5. Is this organization a public, private non-profit, or private for-profit entity?

This organization is a public entity – State Government Agency

6. From what federal agency and account are you requesting funds (Please be specific –e.g., Department of Housing and Urban Development, Economic Development Initiatives account)?

8. Briefly describe the activity or project for which funding is requested (no more than 500 words).

Since the beginning of the Global War on Terror, the Oregon National Guard has been deployed (both Army and Air Guard) to Iraq and Afghanistan multiple times. Oregon has experienced significant issues when our veterans return home, including suicide, high rates of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and Traumatic Brain Injury, unemployment, divorce, domestic violence, self-medication with drugs and alcohol, and veteran involvement with the Oregon criminal justice system. We have learned that the major reason for these post-deployment issues is the lack of time to assess and provide services for at risk veterans. An OIF/OEF veteran can literally be in a firefight on Monday and be home expected to resume a “normal” life 12 days later. It just doesn’t work that way. The 90-Day Soft Landing is a program designed to keep a veteran on Title 10 Active Duty orders for up to 90-days post deployment so that the veteran can be assessed, resourced and decompressed in preparation for returning to their normal life. Importantly, most veterans will be moved off Title 10 within weeks due to their enrollment into the VA Health Care system; in order to receive VA benefits you have to be off active duty orders. We anticipate only a handful of veterans remaining in the program for the full 90 days. Both Senator Ron Wyden and Congressman Peter DeFazio have pending legislation for this program (S 1426 and HR 3358).

9. What is the purpose of the project? Why is it a valuable use of taxpayer funds? How will the project support efforts to improve the economy and create jobs in Oregon?

The purpose of this project is to ensure returning Oregon National Guard veterans receive appropriate assessment and care to mitigate post-deployment negative outcomes.

9. Has this project received federal appropriations funding in past fiscal years?

No

9a. If yes, please provide the fiscal year, Department, Account, and funding amount of any previous funding.

N/A

Funding Details

10. Amount requested for this project:

\$15,000,000

11. Breakdown/budget of the amount you are requesting for this project (e.g., salary \$40,000; computer \$3,000):

All cost would be for Title 10 Active Duty pay for returning Oregon National Guard soldiers and airmen.

12. What is the total cost of the project?

\$15,000,000

13. Is this project scalable (i.e., If partial funding is awarded, will the organization still be able to use the funds in FY 2011?)?

Yes

14. What other funding sources (local, regional, state) are contributing to this project or activity? (Please be specific about funding sources and funding amounts)

Project would be supported by ongoing Oregon National Guard Reintegration Team Yellow Ribbon program.

15. Please list public or private organizations that have supported/endorsed this project.

The Oregon Congressional Delegation
Governor Ted Kulongoski
The Oregon Legislature
United Veterans Groups of Oregon (15 Main Veteran Organizations)
Oregon National Guard

Please return this form no later than Friday, February 26, 2010 via email to:

Appropriations.Blumenauer@mail.house.gov

Washington, D.C. Appropriations Contact for Rep. Earl Blumenauer: Stephanie Cappa, 202-225-4811, Stephanie.Cappa@mail.house.gov

Oregon Appropriations Contact for Rep. Earl Blumenauer: Sarah Masterson, 503-231-2300, Sarah.Masterson@mail.house.gov